

is passed from the host computer to the storage system," each of claims 1, 11, 12, 21, and 22 patentably distinguishes over Rao.

With respect to the rejection of claims 4-9, 11, and 15-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rao further in view of Shank, Applicants note that even if the disclosure of Shank were combined with that of Rao, the resulting combination does not disclose, teach, or suggest Applicants' invention as presently recited in each of independent claims 1, 11, 12, 21, and 22. Specifically, neither reference alone or in combination discloses, teaches, or suggests generating data that is independent of any data passed from a host computer to a storage system and writing that generated data to a user-accessible storage location as recited in each of these claims.

Lastly, turning now to the Examiner's concern as to whether claims 1, 11, 12, 21, and 22 may also be read on the transformation operation described at page 26 lines 25-30 of Applicants' specification, Applicants believe they cannot. This is because in the transformation of the data forming a logical object from one format, such as an EBCDIC data format to another format, such as the ASCII data format, the data that is transformed is related to, and not independent of, the data passed by the host computer to the storage system.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee

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occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge the deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

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